

NEWSLETTER

NEWS OF MEMBERS

There have been four new members in recent months: Wayne Kelly, Bernie Riff, Keith Wright and George Whitfield. Bernie entered a display in the federation competition and achieved a good bronze medal result. Roy Bentley is now working in Libya. His wife Janice has been a regular attender in his absence. Vic Sheppard is now a member of the British society of Russian Philately and your Secretary has expanded his interests and joined the Czechoslovakian Philatelic Society.

1990 CONVENTION

Saturday 31 March. A beautiful sunny day and a clear road made for a quick trip to Swansea. Without a map to guide us, we relied on memories of the last Convention at Swansea in 1984 to find the Brangwyn Hall. A six inch square of paper stuck to the main door confirmed that we had found the entrance for this year's Convention. The hall itself is beautifully decorated. It also has a bar nearby which is where we were when the official opening took place. The Mayor of Swansea gave a very brief speech and then the prizes were presented. For Newport, no cup this year but we had a respectable haul of a silver, three bronze and a diploma. Alan Perry took to the stage to receive his bronze medal and assorted gifts that were given to each junior entry.

The hall was nearly empty all day, which made it easy to sit and browse through the stocks of the 18 dealers. I was very pleased with the day's purchases, and the rest of the family picked up healthy sun tans on the beach next to the hall.

The Commemorative cover was a bit gross - 9 x 6", featuring an outsize representation of a Penny Black. Members attending were John and Alan Perry, Martyn Britton, Ken Wilmott and Vic Sheppard.

CHILD'S PLAY?

Talking to Roger Hudson of Cover Boys, who is just off on a tour of Europe, I picked up some interesting information about West Germany's premier stamp exhibition. The Essen Messe (or Fair) attracts many dealers but it also provides a separate hall each day for hundreds of collectors to swap stamps. No money must change hands (at least, in theory). But even stamp dealers find it a useful way to freshen up their stock.

RECENT MEETINGS

We made what has become an annual visit to Bridgend society in February. There was a good turn-out and (excellent refreshments) for myself, Vic Sheppard and Martyn Britton. Vic showed some sheets linking stamps and entertainment and promises to repeat the performance for Newport members next season (complete with Charlie Chaplin and W C Fields impressions). Martyn showed Fiji and I finished with material from the HAFNIA 1987 international exhibition.

Six members of Cardiff society visited in March. There were several displays including one from Norman Clowes on mail addressed to ships, which continued a display he had started last season. Three members from Hereford society came down in a mini-bus to one of our April meetings. Ray Lancaster showed a display with the title "Heart of Darkness", a vast array of Belgian Congo material. John Crouch (who is also a stamp dealer) showed some mail relating to ship's radio operators as well as some missing colours and other errors that he had picked up while searching through new stock. Roger Broomfield ended the evening with some mouth-watering local (Hereford) postal history.

The annual dinner was held on 25 April at the Golden Lion in Magon. There were 13 members and 8 guests present for a less formal get together than in the last couple of years.

As usual several members joined the Cardiff society coach to Stampex in February. Cardiff have also arranged a trip to Stamp World on 5 May, with a dozen Newport members filling up the coach.

FUTURE EVENTS

Here is a list of some of the events over the next few months. Apologies for any errors or omissions.

3-13 May - Stamp World, Alexandra Palace (coach trip 5 May)
11 May - Dragon Fair - Hotel Diplomat Cardiff
13 May - Mid West Fair - Two Rivers Hotel Chepstow
26 May - Ann Scott (postcards) - BAWA Bristol
28 May - Hobbies Fayre - Dyffryn House Cardiff
31 May - Mid West Fair - BAWA Bristol
8 June - Dragon Fair - Hotel Diplomat Cardiff
28 June - Mid West Fair - BAWA Bristol
30 June - Symes Fair - City Hall Cardiff
6 July - Dragon Fair - Hotel Diplomat Cardiff
21 July - Ann Scott (postcards) - BAWA Bristol
22 July - Mid West Fair - Two Rivers Hotel Chepstow
29 July - Mid West Fair - BAWA Bristol
30 Aug - Mid West Fair - BAWA Bristol
7 Sept - Dragon Fair - Hotel Diplomat Cardiff
15 Sept - Symes Fair - City Hall Cardiff
6 Oct - Ann Scott (postcards) - BAWA Bristol
12 Oct - Dragon Fair - Hotel Diplomat Cardiff
13 Oct - Federation Autumn Day - Memorial Hall Barry
16-21 Oct - Autumn Stampex
3 Nov - Welsh PS meeting - Crickhowell
10 Nov - BPF exhibiting seminar - 12 Knights Hotel Port Talbot

That's all for this time remember the AGM on 16 May and the 1991 Convention at St Julians on 20 April 1991

John Perry
Hon. Secretary
30 April 1990